




MINERALS PROGRAM INSPECTION REPORT
PHONE: (303) 866-3567

The Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety has conducted an inspection of the mining operation noted below. This report documents observations concerning compliance with the terms of the permit and applicable rules and regulations of the Mined Land Reclamation Board.

MINE NAME: Nahcolite Project	MINE/PROSPECTING ID#: M-1983-194	MINERAL: Carbonates	COUNTY: Rio Blanco
INSPECTION TYPE: Monitoring	INSPECTOR(S): Amy Yeldell	INSP. DATE: November 5, 2021	INSP. TIME: 10:00
OPERATOR: Natural Soda LLC	OPERATOR REPRESENTATIVE: Kirk Daehling	TYPE OF OPERATION: 112d-3 - Designated Mining Operation	
REASON FOR INSPECTION: Normal I&E Program	BOND CALCULATION TYPE: None	BOND AMOUNT: \$3,671,965.00	
DATE OF COMPLAINT: NA	POST INSP. CONTACTS: None	JOINT INSP. AGENCY: U.S.BLM	
WEATHER: Clear	INSPECTOR'S SIGNATURE: 	SIGNATURE DATE: November 15, 2021	

GENERAL INSPECTION TOPICS

This list identifies the environmental and permit parameters inspected and gives a categorical evaluation of each. No problems or possible violations were noted during the inspection. The mine operation was found to be in full compliance with Mineral Rules and Regulations of the Colorado Mined Land Reclamation Board for the Extraction of Construction Materials and/or for Hard Rock, Metal and Designated Mining Operations. Any person engaged in any mining operation shall notify the office of any failure or imminent failure, as soon as reasonably practicable after such person has knowledge of such condition or of any impoundment, embankment, or slope that poses a reasonable potential for danger to any persons or property or to the environment; or any environmental protection facility designed to contain or control chemicals or waste which are acid or toxic-forming, as identified in the permit.

(AR) RECORDS----- <u>Y</u>	(FN) FINANCIAL WARRANTY----- <u>Y</u>	(RD) ROADS----- <u>Y</u>
(HB) HYDROLOGIC BALANCE----- <u>Y</u>	(BG) BACKFILL & GRADING----- <u>Y</u>	(EX) EXPLOSIVES----- <u>NA</u>
(PW) PROCESSING WASTE/TAILING----- <u>NA</u>	(SF) PROCESSING FACILITIES----- <u>Y</u>	(TS) TOPSOIL----- <u>Y</u>
(MP) GENL MINE PLAN COMPLIANCE- <u>Y</u>	(FW) FISH & WILDLIFE----- <u>Y</u>	(RV) REVEGETATION---- <u>Y</u>
(SM) SIGNS AND MARKERS----- <u>Y</u>	(SP) STORM WATER MGT PLAN---- <u>N</u>	(RS) RECL PLAN/COMP-- <u>Y</u>
(ES) OVERBURDEN/DEV. WASTE----- <u>NA</u>	(SC) EROSION/SEDIMENTATION--- <u>Y</u>	(ST) STIPULATIONS----- <u>Y</u>
(AT) ACID OR TOXIC MATERIALS----- <u>NA</u>	(OD) OFF-SITE DAMAGE----- <u>NA</u>	

Y = Inspected / N = Not inspected / NA = Not applicable to this operation / PB = Problem cited / PV = Possible violation cited

OBSERVATIONS

This inspection was conducted as part of the Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining, and Safety (Division) normal monitoring program. The Nahcolite Project is a 112d-3 permitted site that includes a total of 12,248 permitted acres with a maximum disturbance of 260 acres. At this time, approximately 100 acres have been affected. The site located approximately 25 miles southwest of Meeker, Colorado in Rio Blanco County. Kirk Daehling, Gerry Deschaine and Jerry Daub represented the operator and accompanied Amy Yeldell of the Division on the inspection. Shawna Wiser with the White River Field Office BLM was also present.

The fall continues to be extremely dry and warm. The majority of seeding efforts have been delayed until the first major snow storm the year. Weeds appear to remain dormant. The operator should remain vigilant for late blooms of Cheatgrass (a winter bi-annual) and similar noxious weeds.

Pad 8 and surrounding areas has been recently hydroseeded. The access road to pad 15-17 bisects the reclaimed areas.

All three wells (PA-1, AG-2 and BG-10) on the new up-gradient well pad approved under TR-46 have been completed. Completion reports were received by the Division. Grading on the pad is excellent with cross-tracking to prevent slope erosion. Seeding will occur just before snow.

IRI-8, IRI-9 and EX-2 wells have all been plugged and abandoned. The Division has received abandonment reports. EX-2 is located within the staff parking lot on northwest side and no surface reclamation will be required. IRI-8 and IRI-9 consist of minimal surface disturbance. Grading has been completed and spot/hand seeding will be applied as weather conditions allow.

No problems or violations were noted during this inspection.

Responses to this inspection report should be directed to Amy Yeldell at the Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety, 1313 Sherman St., Room 215, Denver, CO 80203. Direct contact can be made by phone at 970-210-1272 or via email at amy.yeldell@state.co.us

Inspection Contact Address

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PHOTOGRAPHS



Hydroseeded Pad 8



EX-2 well pad disturbance within parking lot



New up-gradient well pad



IRI-9 surface disturbance